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information report

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SUBJECT

Communist Troops in Canton

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1-10 November 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

- The Canton Garrison headquarters of the Chinese Communist People's Liberation Army (PLA) is in the former building of the Nationalist Peace Preservation headquarters. The majority of the officers in this headquarters are former underground workers; the remainder were supplied by the 43 Army. Most of the officers are in civilian dress, but all carry fireamrs and wear identifying armbands.* Garrison Command automobiles are identified by white license plates bearing embossed letters reading "Canton Garrison Headquarters Vehicle Pass". Military vehicles are marked with red stars bearing the character "八一" surcharged. **
- On 27 October 1949, the Kwangtung Military District Headquarters organized the Kwangtung Service Command under the direction of LIN Poing () ***

 His subordinates are FANG Fang () . political commissar; HSIEH Yu-fang () . chief of staff; LIU Tung-ming and SUNG Chien-poing, deputy chiefs of staff; and LI Tzu-chiang () . chief of the political department. The service command opened its office on the ground floor of the Tiger Balm Building. () . the Bund, Canton, 1 November 1949. The mission of the Kwangtung Service Command is to direct military operations for the occupation of Canton, to disarm Nationalist troops in the villages and to supervise trees replacement. to disarm Nationalist troops in the villages, and to supervise troop replacment and supply for the PLA in the area.
- The number of regular PLA troops in Canton and its suburbs is approximately 30,000. Of these about 20,000 are from TSENG Sheng's (曾生) Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Column, **** most of whose officers and men are natives of Kwangtung. The remainder are northerners from units assigned to LIN Piac's 4 Field Army.
- The first Communist troops arriving in the city were poorly armed, ***** while the second wave was well-equipped, though not uniformly so. The Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Column, whose fighting efficiency is rather high, has taken many weapons from the local Nationalist guerrillas. The troops are armed for the most part with revolvers and automatic and Mauser-type pistols. although other weapons are seen among them. The 4 Field Army troops have light and heavy machine guns, British and American sub-machine guns, American carbines, Jayanese 6.5mm rifles, and Chinese 7.9mm rifles.
- Troops are scattered throughout Canton city proper and its suburbs for a radius of several miles. One understrength company of troops is placed in each Public

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL X NSR8 STATE X NAVY DISTRIBUTIO X AIR ARMY

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Director of Central Intelligence
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Security Branch Bureau to maintain public order. Units with radio directionfinding equipment have been established in various quarters of the city to detect illegal radio transmitters.

- 6. Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Column troops may be found as far away as Chungshan (113-36, 22-22), to which about 5,000 men, accompanied by 70 female political workers, were transferred on 1 November 1949 in boats commandeered along the Bund and Huang Sha. More than 3,000 other Kwangtung-Kwangsi Border Column troops are scattered among Taliang (113-16, 22-49), Yungchi (113-15, 22-43), and Kueichou (113-16, 22-45). Troops of the Kwangtung-Kwangsi-Human Border Column are responsible for maintaining public order.
- More than 10,000 4 Field Army troops remain in Fushan (113-08, 23-02), where a forward command post is located, despite the departure 31 October 1949 of 20,000 men belonging to the 41 and 43 Armies. Another 1,000 of Lin Piao's troops are in Pingchou (114-27, 22-33), while 2,000 are in Lei Chiang ()1). The 44 Army split on 31 October 1949, with part moving west for Chaoching (112-29, 23-04), while the remainder went to Hengyang (112-35, 26-56). The latter group was armed with rifles, carbines, light and heavy machine guns, and a number of 13mm guns (sic). The 13mm guns were camouflage in the motor repair shops on Feng Ning Lu during the army's stay in the city.
- Of the 9,000 men in Fanyu hsien, 3,000 are in Shihchiao (113-22, 22-56) and Hsintsao (113-06, 23-01); 5,000 are in Shinching (113-15, 23-13) and Hsi Ts'un (10 A); and 1,000 are in Hsinchieh (113-13, 23-22). Some of these men are reported as the 62 Regiment of the 88 Division of the 17 Army, ****** and all have American equipment.
- Cn 29 October more than 1,000 wounded Communist troops were transferred from Chiangmen (113-06, 22-34) to Fushan (113-08, 23-02), where they were placed in the Li Kuong Hai (李原治) Hospital and in the Foundling Institution at Piu Tiung Hau (書 道治).



White cotton band with red stars and black letters which read "Garrison Command".

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Comment. These characters are "81, which stands 487 Migust 1, the anniversary of the People's Liberation Army. See

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Comment. LIN Pling was previously reported as commander of the Kwangtung-Kiangsi-Hunan Border Column of the People's Liberation Army, and member of the Canton Military Control Commission.

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Comment.

Previously reported as a Communist guerilla column.

Comment.

Probably irregulars from the border armies.

Comment. The 88 Division was last reported near Kueilin, and because of the PLA's numbering system, it could not be part of the 17 Army, which is not under LIN Piac's command.

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